

FRANK McCLOSKEY

8TH DISTRICT, INDIANA

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House of Representatives

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September 13, 1984

LEGISLATIVE LIAISON

84-3393

TO: Congressional Liaison
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C.

Chrono

FROM: Congressman Frank McCloskey
116 CHOB
Washington, D. C. 20515
202/225-4636

Attached is material from one of my constituents addressing an issue which appears to fall within your agency's jurisdiction. I would appreciate a reply at your early convenience with respect to the matters raised. Further questions should be directed to Chris Aldridge of my Washington staff at the phone number listed above.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,

Frank McCloskey
Frank McCloskey, MC

Dear Congressman McCloskey

SEP 13 AM 8:34

Could you please tell me how I can get ahold of all the CIA and DIA report that Congressman Applegate gave to the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee. The 97 CIA Report and the 300 CIA reports on tracking prisoners in Vietnam as late as 1979 and also DIA case that I can get a hold of, these of course are declassified reports.

I also think it would be a great idea for you to read these reports also.

Also Mr. Applegate said a refugee report never investigated by the DIA cites 50 live American POWs. Please tell me why our DIA did not investigate this sighting.

Mr. Applegate believe that there is a good possible of a cover up. I do believe that there is a coverup. How do you believe?

I know these reports will have a lot of pages so please tell me how much this will cost me.

I also would like to know if you have any plans to go to Hanoi and ask them about our POW-MIA from Indiana?

over
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I also urge you to speak out
on this important CRISIS. every
chance that you can these great
american POWs MIAs need your
help today tomorrow maybe too
late.

Also I would like for you to join a
great group of caring people we are
dedicated toward a full Accounting of
POWs and MIAs we are the National
Forget-Me-Not Assoc for POWs-MIA- Inc.

great group. Let us both work
hard so they can come home.
Thank you so much for your
time.

Sincerely

Coverup hint on Southeast Asia prisoner issue meets skepticism

THE WASHINGTON TIMES

A congressional champion of Vietnam veterans charged before skeptical House colleagues yesterday that intelligence officials knowingly abandoned U.S. prisoners of war in Southeast Asia and said he is "fearful" that a coverup is now under way.

"I am outraged to think that our government knew of these live Americans up to and past the end of the conflict and knowingly left them in captivity and did nothing about it," Rep. Douglas Applegate, D-Ohio, charged.

"I am fearful that our president may not fully know what his intelligence community knows about our POW/MIA's and that government agencies are covering up past mistakes and withholding information for whatever reasons," he added.

Rep. Applegate, chairman of a House Veterans Affairs subcommittee, testified during a hearing by a House Foreign Affairs subcommittee on the Reagan administration's renewed effort to account for the missing GIs.

There are 2,483 Americans unaccounted for in Southeast Asia — 1,826 in Vietnam and the remainder in Laos.

Chairman Stephen J. Solarz, D-N.Y., of the subcommittee on Pacific and Asian Affairs, announced U.S. officials on Aug. 15-18 will hold renewed technical-level meetings on the problem, which Hanoi discontinued in mid-1983.

Hanoi returned the remains of eight Americans last July 17 and has agreed to allow a U.S. team to excavate at a crash site near Paske to search for remains of American servicemen, Mr. Solarz said.

Rep. Benjamin Gilman, D-N.Y., head of the House Task Force on American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia, said a review of an earlier coverup charge from another source turned up no evidence of such concealment.

Lt. Gen. James Williams, head of the

Defense Intelligence Agency, described intensive interviews that are being conducted in an effort to pin down information in Southeast Asia and in dozens of other countries that refugees reach.

"Since the communist takeover of Indochina in 1975, we have acquired a total of 2,627 reports from Indochinese refugees concerning alleged sightings of Americans," Gen. Williams testified. Many proved to be errors or deliberate falsehoods, but 86 cases are being actively investigated, he said.

"Despite our persistent efforts, we have not yet been able to prove or disprove that there are any Americans being detained against their will," Gen. Williams said.

"We are proceeding under the

Mr. Applegate testified that he has a list of 97 CIA reports of American prisoners in Laos that U.S. officials knew about, and 300 CIA reports on tracking prisoners in Vietnam as late as 1979.

"All of these documents have been declassified and while they may be old news, it clearly shows that we knew of and left our boys over there," he said.

"As of July 15, 1984, the Defense Intelligence Agency had over 2,620 reports on Americans in Southeast Asia — 640 of those reports are eyewitnesses," Mr. Applegate said.

"A refugee report, never investigated by the DIA, cites 50 live American POWs in northern Laos," he added. "This live sighting of our boys was made on April 26, 1982."

Mr. Applegate testified that he has a list of 97 CIA reports of American prisoners in Laos that U.S. officials knew about, and 300 CIA reports on tracking prisoners in Vietnam as late as 1979.

... "As of July 15, 1984, the Defense Intelligence Agency had over 2,620 reports on Americans in Southeast Asia — 640 of those reports are eyewitnesses," Mr. Applegate said. "A refugee report, never investigated by the DIA, cites 50 live American POWs in northern Laos," he added.

assumption that some Americans are still held and we will always predicate our actions on that basis; however, we cannot yet prove that any American is now being held captive," he said.

Questioned by the chairman, Gen. Williams denied he has been involved in a coverup or knows of one, and insisted that his agency has turned over all of its information to Congress.

"I said I was fearful that they might," Mr. Applegate replied.

Mr. Applegate said his efforts to check the reports have run into "roadblocks in the name of national security" and it is for this reason that he fears there may be a coverup, he said.

"If this is true, I must confess it is news to me," Chairman Solarz said.

"When did the agencies cover up?"

The Washington Times Aug - 9 - 1984